

Several assumptions were made to simplify model input data set development and construction. These assumptions relax some of the approaches employed for previous analyses of the In-Valley Disposal Alternative. Most of these simplifications are common to all the scenarios assessed for the land retirement analysis. The key simplifications are summarized below:

- Drainage system installation and land retirement were implemented instantaneously rather than phased in gradually over a 5-year period.
- Water table recharge beneath reuse facilities and evaporation basins was not included.
- Seepage control measures in the Northerly Area were not included. Seepage control measures reduce water table recharge in the Northerly Area by 4,200 AF/year.
- New drainage systems planned for the Northerly Area (3,007 acres) were not included.
- All new drainage systems are conventional in design; however, 25 percent of the new drainage systems planned for Westlands and 10 percent of the new drainage systems planned for the Northerly Area are assumed to be designed to manage shallow groundwater (for example, using closer drain lateral spacing and shallower drain lateral depths).

4.1.2.2 Drainflow Estimates

Drainflow is the net result of water table recharge, evaporative losses from the shallow water table, and natural drainage (vertical downward movement of groundwater past the drain laterals); regional processes (water table recharge and pumping) influence the underlying distribution of hydraulic head and the resulting natural drainage.

Beginning in 2005, new subsurface drainage systems are assumed in the model to be installed in all areas of Westland's drainage-impaired area having a simulated water table within 7.5 feet of land surface. After 2005, drainage systems will gradually be installed within the remaining drainage-impaired area when the simulated water table reaches a depth of 7.5 feet or less.

Simulated drainflows were adjusted to account for processes not directly simulated by the regional groundwater flow model including:

- Scaling the model drainflow to account for drainage-impaired areas not within the model domain. This resulted in multiplying the Northerly Area simulated drainflow by a factor of 1.12 and Westlands simulated drainflow by a factor of 2.71.
- Adjusting the annual drainflow estimates to account for temporal variability not explicitly represented by the model. The model utilizes annual stress periods to estimate average annual drainflow, but relatively greater volumes of drainwater are produced during and immediately following irrigation than are expected from annual drainflow conditions (Deverel and Fio 1991; Fio and Deverel 1991). The scaled simulated annual drainflows for the Northerly Area and Westlands were multiplied by 1.5 to account for temporal processes based on comparisons with measured and modeled drainflow in the Northerly Area.
- Simulated drainflow from the Northerly drainage-impaired area was increased by 15,400 AF/year to account for uncontrolled discharges into the drainage systems (URS 2002).

SECTION FOUR

Drainage Quantity and Quality and Drainwater Reduction

Total annual drainflow estimated for the In-Valley Disposal Alternative for the Northerly Area and Westlands are 35,200 AF/year and 40,562 AF/year, respectively, corresponding to a drainflow of 0.55 AF/tiled acre in the Northerly Area and 0.24 AF/tiled acre in Westlands.

4.2 DRAINWATER REDUCTION MEASURES

Reclamation found three on-farm drainwater reduction measures (source control) to be cost-effective in the 2002 PFR: drainwater recycling, shallow groundwater management, and seepage reduction. These measures continue to be used to estimate drainage production but have been supplemented with irrigation efficiency improvements and land retirement.

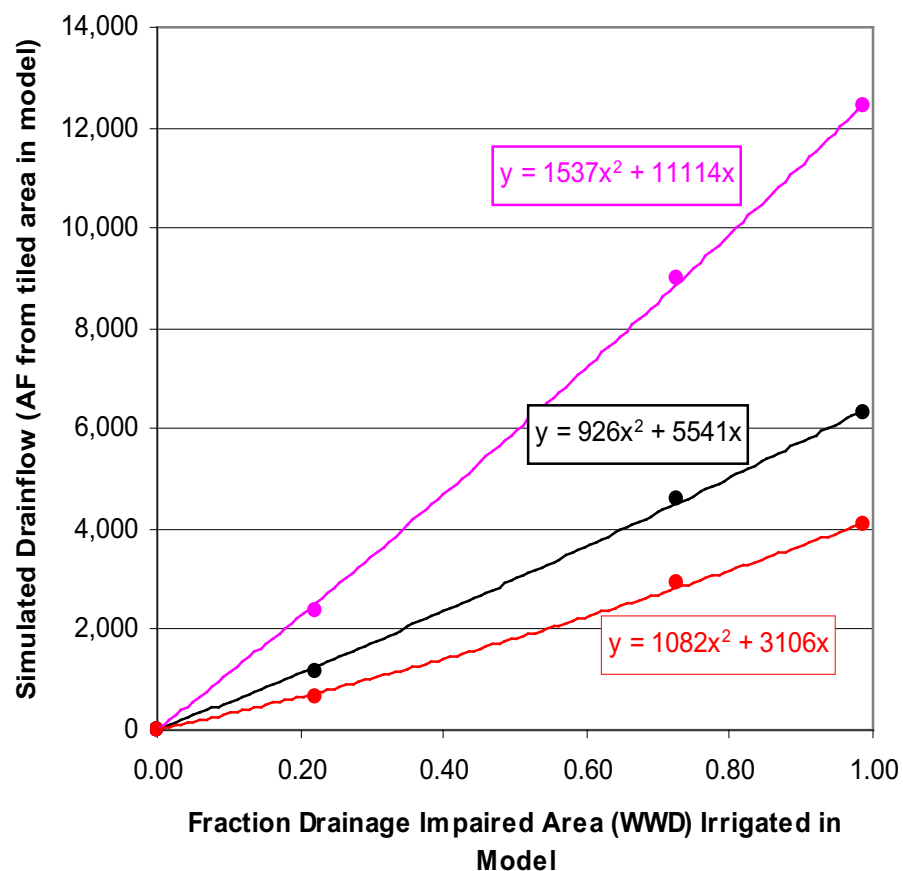
4.2.1 Land Retirement

The hydrologic effects due to mandatory retirement of various land areas were investigated. Various amounts of lands were retired in the model in 2005, and the annual changes in groundwater storage, water table depths, and resulting drainflows were simulated. As a result of land retirement, irrigation ceases on the retired lands and, consequently, groundwater pumpage and surface-water deliveries are discontinued. The simulated pumping rate beneath retired lands also becomes zero, but the pumping rate beneath active lands was increased to maintain a constant pumping rate of 175,000 AF/year within Westlands. The Technical Team then developed a relationship between the fraction of drainage-impaired land that was retired and the simulated drainflow and area requiring drainage systems in the remaining farmed area. The results of these relationships are shown on Figures 4-4 and 4-5. The results of the land retirement drainflow analysis for Westlands are shown in Table 4-2. The results indicate the scaled annual drainflow rate per tiled area is similar for all alternatives, ranging from 0.24 to 0.26 AF/tiled acre, with the exception of the scenario that retires all drainage-impaired areas, which resulted in no drainflow. For the Northerly Area, only one land retirement scenario was modeled (retirement of Broadview Water District). However, the model indicated land retirement in Westlands did have a small effect on drainflow rates in the Northerly Area. The resulting drainage flow rates in the Northerly Area are 0.47 to 0.55 AF/tiled acre/year.

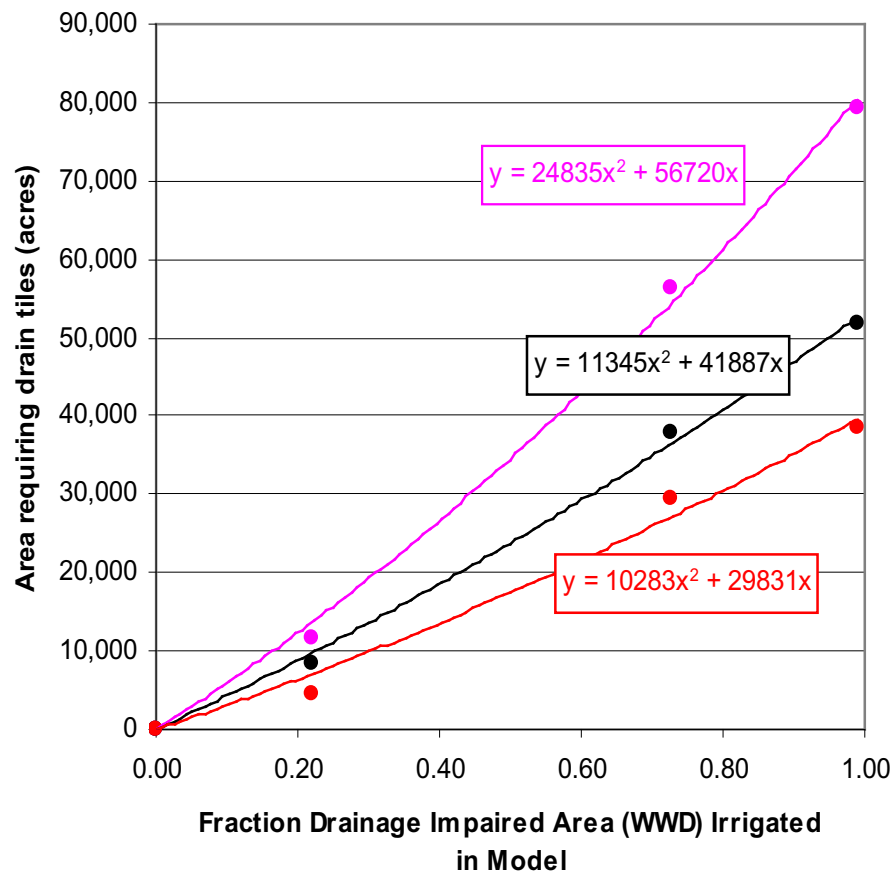
Table 4-2
Simulated 2050 Drainflow for Different Levels of Land Retirement – Current Recharge

Scenario	Retired (Westlands)		2050 Westlands Drainflow (AF/yr)		2050 Westlands Collector System Area (acres)		2050 Drainflow (AF/tiled acre)	
	Acres	Fraction of Drainage- Impaired Area Irrigated	Model	Scaled	Model	Scaled	Westlands	Northerly Area*
In-Valley	57,141	0.81	9,989	40,562	62,083	168,066	0.24	0.55
Groundwater Quality	88,578	0.70	8,573	34,811	52,147	141,169	0.25	0.55
Water Needs	185,000	0.38	4,441	18,035	25,116	67,993	0.26	0.53
Maximum Retired	298,238	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.47

*Northerly Area drainflow rate does not include the approximately 15,400 AF of uncontrolled discharge. The total drainflow volume is, therefore, equal to the drainflow rate multiplied by 36,000 acres tiled plus the uncontrolled discharge.



- Current Conditions
- Moderate Recharge Reduction
- Maximum Recharge Reduction
- Poly. (Current Conditions)
- Poly. (Moderate Recharge Reduction)
- Poly. (Maximum Recharge Reduction)



- Current Conditions
- Moderate Recharge Reduction
- Maximum Recharge Reduction

— Poly. (Current Conditions)

— Poly. (Moderate Recharge Reduction)

— Poly. (Maximum Recharge Reduction)

4.2.2 Irrigation Efficiency

A similar analysis was also performed to determine how improvements to irrigation efficiency would change drainflow rates. For this analysis, water table recharge rates used in the model were reduced to simulate improved irrigation efficiencies. Similar to the previous analysis, relationships were developed between the fraction of land in the drainage-impaired area remaining in production and the predicted drainage rates for two additional levels of water recharge. Results of the modeling are shown in Tables 4-3 and 4-4. See also Section 3.3.10.3 for further discussion of analysis of deep percolation rates.

Table 4-3
Simulated 2050 Drainflow – Moderate Recharge Reduction

Scenario	Retired (Westlands)		2050 Westlands Drainflow (AF/yr)		2050 Westlands Collector System Area (acres)		2050 Drainflow (AF/tiled acre)	
	Acres	Fraction of DIA Irrigated	Model	Scaled	Model	Scaled	Westlands	Northerly Area*
In-Valley	57,141	0.81	5,085	20,647	41,276	111,739	0.18	0.42
Groundwater Quality	88,578	0.70	4,353	17,676	25,053	94,893	0.19	0.42
Water Needs	185,000	0.38	2,237	9,085	17,540	47,482	0.19	0.40
Maximum Retired	298,238	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.36

*Northerly Area drainflow rate does not include the approximately 14,000 AF of uncontrolled discharge. The total drainflow volume is, therefore, equal to the drainflow rate multiplied by 48,000 plus the uncontrolled discharge. Drainflow reduction due to recharge reductions in Northerly Area lands located outside of the San Luis Unit (i.e., Firebaugh Water Budget Subarea in Table A-2) were estimated using model results for simulated recharge reductions in lands located within the San Luis Unit land (i.e., the Panoche and San Luis Water Budget Subareas in Table A-2).

Table 4-4
Simulated 2050 Drainflow – Maximum Recharge Reduction

Scenario	Retired (Westlands)		2050 Westlands Drainflow (AF/yr)		2050 Westlands Collector System Area (acres)		2050 Drainflow (AF/tiled acre)	
	Acres	Fraction of DIA Irrigated	Model	Scaled	Model	Scaled	Westlands	Northerly Area*
In-Valley	57,141	0.81	3,218	13,067	30,836	83,476	0.16	0.29
Groundwater Quality	88,578	0.70	2,718	11,038	26,053	70,529	0.16	0.29
Water Needs	185,000	0.38	1,335	5,422	12,809	34,675	0.16	0.28
Maximum Retired	298,238	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.25

*Northerly Area drainflow rate does not include the approximately 12,600 AF of uncontrolled discharge. The total drainflow volume is, therefore, equal to the drainflow rate multiplied by 48,000 plus the uncontrolled discharge. Drainflow reduction due to recharge reductions in Northerly Area lands located outside of the San Luis Unit (i.e., Firebaugh Water Budget Subarea in Table A-2) were estimated using model results for simulated recharge reductions in lands located within the San Luis Unit land (i.e., the Panoche and San Luis Water Budget Subareas in Table A-2).

These results were used to develop a cost/benefit analysis for land retirement and improvements in irrigation efficiencies (Section 3.3).

4.2.3 Other On-Farm Measures

Drainage reduction from other regional and on-farm source control measures was previously analyzed in the PFR. The drainage reduction (source control) measures identified as cost effective in the PFR included seepage reduction, regional recycling, and shallow groundwater management. The on-farm, in-district drainwater reduction actions are not components of the drainage service alternatives to be implemented by Reclamation. Rather, they represent the assumptions Reclamation has made regarding the conditions of the area to be served and the reasonable actions that could be implemented by districts within the area to be served in order to estimate a reasonable drainage quantity and quality for the future once drainage service is provided. Although drainwater reduction actions other than the ones selected have been proposed in the Westside Regional Drainage Plan and could be implemented to reduce drainage flows (e.g., shallow groundwater pumping), it was determined that they were either not cost effective compared to the disposal facilities, or it was not reasonable to assume that they would be implemented due to the uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of the action. Shallow groundwater pumping shows promise for reducing drainflows. However, additional information is needed to demonstrate its practical feasibility, including the potential uses for the pumped groundwater.

For this analysis, drainwater reduction from regional recycling and shallow groundwater management were scaled from the estimates in the PFR, based on the size of the drainage collector area for the different land retirement alternatives. The benefit of lining water supply canals in the Northerly Area for seepage reduction was shown as a reduction of 3,200 AF/year in the Unit and 4,200 AF/year in the entire Northerly Area.

To estimate the current cost-effectiveness of these source control measures, the updated drainage treatment and disposal costs for each AF of drainwater treated were compared to costs per AF of drainwater avoided due to the on-farm and regional source control measures. The previously selected source control measures were determined to be cost-effective, given the new information on cost for treatment and disposal (Table 4-5). The annual savings per AF varies from \$38 for drainwater recycling up to \$154 for seepage reduction.

Table 4-5
Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Drainwater Reduction Measures

Project Feature	Net Drainage Delivered to Reuse Areas (AF)	Estimated Capital Cost (\$)	Estimated Operation/ Maintenance/ Replacement Cost (\$)	Total Annual Equivalent Costs (\$)
Alternative Costs with Source Reduction Measures				
Drainwater Recycling	59,805	553,492,000	14,255,000	
Shallow Groundwater Management	59,805	553,492,000	14,255,000	
Seepage Reduction	59,805	553,492,000	14,255,000	
Alternative Costs without Source Reduction Measures				
Drainwater Recycling	70,573	551,004,000	14,812,000	
Shallow Groundwater Management	64,875	567,639,000	14,081,000	
Seepage Reduction	63,005	555,315,000	14,638,000	
Difference Attributable to Source Reduction				
Drainwater Recycling	(10,768)	\$2,488,000	(\$557,000)	
Shallow Groundwater Management	(5,071)	(14,147,000)	174,000	
Seepage Reduction	(3,200)	(1,823,000)	(383,000)	
Annual Equivalent Cost of Source Reduction				
Drainwater Recycling		\$149,649	(\$557,000)	(\$407,351)
Shallow Groundwater Management		(850,920)	174,000	(676,920)
Seepage Reduction		(109,651)	(3893,000)	(492,651)
Annual Savings per AF of Source Reduction				
Drainwater Recycling		(\$14)	\$52	\$38
Shallow Groundwater Management		\$168	(\$34)	\$133
Seepage Reduction		\$34	\$120	\$154

Interest Rate 5.6250%

Project Life (years) 50

4.3 DRAINAGE QUALITY

Revised estimates of drainwater quality from farmed lands and reuse areas were developed to enable calculation of discharge water quality for each land retirement and disposal alternative. The revised estimates will be used in the EIS to evaluate effects on surface- and groundwater resources.

4.3.1 Drainwater Quality

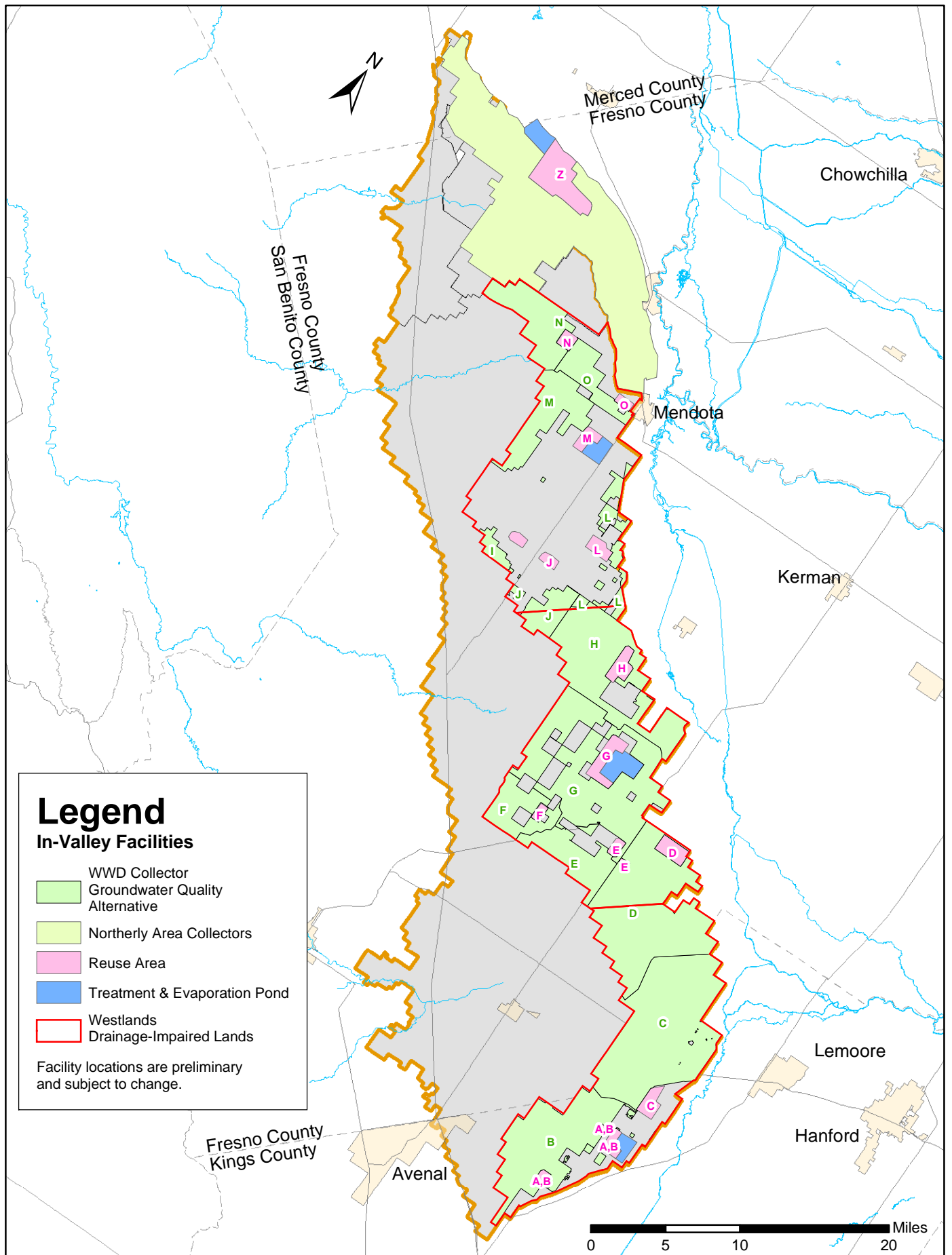
The groundwater quality map developed by Swain (1990) was updated to allow estimation of mean concentrations and uncertainty in drainwater quality by drainage subarea and for reuse areas within the subareas. Because the previous groundwater quality maps provided only a concentration range for different regions, a specific mean concentration for a given region could not reliably be estimated. This specific mean concentration is required to allow evaluation of the effects of both retiring lands and using specific lands for reuse facilities.

Updated groundwater quality maps were produced through geostatistical techniques (block kriging) of mean or median concentrations measured in shallow groundwater wells using data collected in the 1980s. Results from the 2002 groundwater sampling showed no consistent changes in groundwater quality relative to 1980s results. Maps were produced for total dissolved solids (TDS), Se, boron (B), and molybdenum (Mo). These estimated groundwater concentrations were compared to water quality measured in sumps during the same time period to determine if a consistent bias was present in the predicted concentrations. No bias was apparent from the comparison allowing the use of the predicted groundwater concentrations as an estimate of drainwater concentration. Block kriging was then used to estimate average concentrations for each 5,000- by 5,000-meter grid cell in the drainage-impaired area. Results from the block kriging were used to calculate mean concentrations for each subarea and for reuse areas. Estimates of the hydraulic conductivity of each 1-mile grid cell in the area covered by the Belitz groundwater model (Westlands North and most of the Northerly Area) were used to scale the estimated mean concentration to account for differences in drainage yield. Standard error from the block kriging was used to estimate the upper 95th percentile confidence limit of the means and the scaled means for each subarea (calculated as mean + $[2 \times \text{standard error}]$).

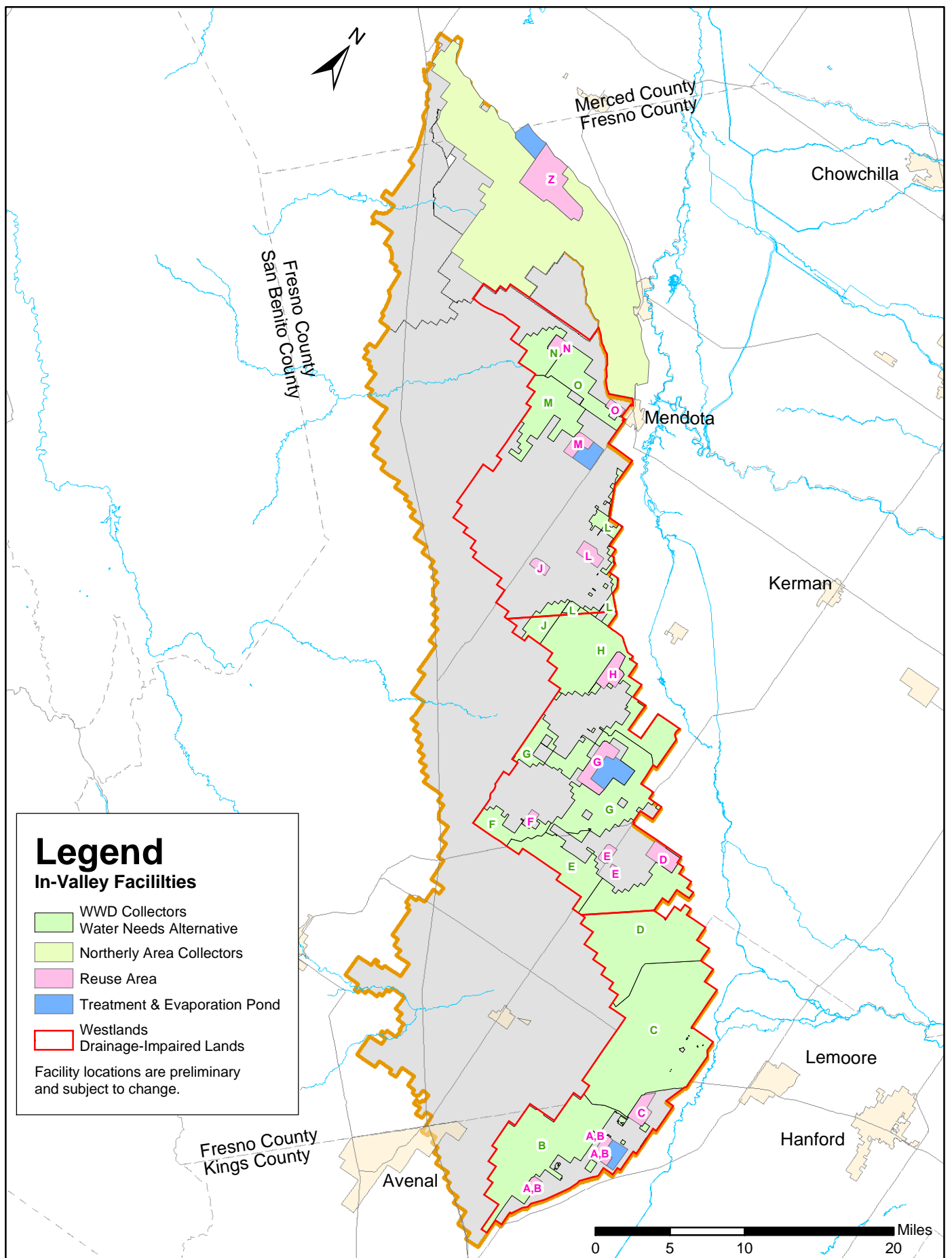
Predictions for farmed lands in the Northerly Area were compared to measured values in sumps to provide a further check on the analysis. The concentrations in shallow groundwater for the farmed and reuse areas were used with the predicted flow rates and project components (reuse, Se treatment, RO treatment) for each disposal alternative to develop a flow-weighted concentration for each disposal alternative.

The subareas used to calculate average water quality are shown on Figures 4-1 In-Valley Alternative (in Section 4.1.1), 4-6 Groundwater Quality Land Retirement Alternative, and 4-7 Water Needs Land Retirement Alternative. The subareas were identified by the Technical Team and included farmed lands (shown as collector areas) and reuse areas for all action alternatives, and evaporation basins for the In-Valley Disposal Alternative only. Retired land areas were removed from collector areas for each of the land retirement alternatives. Figures 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4 (Section 3.4) show the location of the collector areas and existing retired lands. New retired lands include land acquired by Westlands and other gray-colored areas within the drainage-impaired area.

Existing and potential future reuse areas were delineated based on preliminary reconnaissance performed by Reclamation, and then these acreages were removed from drainage-impaired areas. The mapped reuse areas are larger than the areas required for drainage service but are assumed to be representative of potential reuse areas for water quality estimation purposes.



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